

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides a cervical brace that has a chest plate secured to the thorax of a wearer and a chin strut attached to the chest plate. In a preferred embodiment, the chin strut extends to a point on a chin support of a cervical collar disposed adjacent a wearer's chin so as to provide better support. The chest plate is in the form of a vest or can be comprised of a chest plate and a back plate. In preferred embodiments the chin strut extends in a straight line from the chest plate to the chin support and is adjustable and maybe positioned securely, relative to the chest plate, the cervical brace also has a back plate and an occipital support. In certain embodiments it has a rear strut extending between the occipital support and the back plate. In such embodiments, the back plate and the chest plate are preferably attached to each other around the body. In accordance with one aspect of the present invention, the rear strut is adjustable and further has a strut latch, which is most preferably an eccentric lever for locking one end of the rear strut to a bracket affixed to the back plate. In another embodiment it may have a strap which serves the occipital support to the forehead.

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